

ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

From Where It All Began

... Is Happening Again

No. 89 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

November 2016

Experience All the Best of the Holidays Right Here

Holly Trail, Festival of Lights Set Dec. 3

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. Some studies suggest that 92% of Americans celebrate Christmas in some way. The majority celebrate Christmas as a religious holiday, but some celebrate as a cultural holiday.

Either way, there is a lot of preparation that goes into the activities we enjoy at this time of year ... purchasing of gifts for family and friends, decorating the home (inside and out), planning parties, preparing and cooking the Christmas meal, and many more that sometimes control our time and attention.

Unfortunately for most, more time is spent preparing for, or complaining about, this holiday period than is actually spent enjoying its purpose and meaning. We spend much time preparing for friends and family and then spend so little time with them. One study revealed that on Christmas day, the average parent only spends nine minutes playing with their children.



CATCH THE SANTA TROLLEY AT FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

No matter how you spend your time preparing for Christmas, one thing is important to point out ... spend more time celebrating than preparing. We invite you to begin the Christmas celebration right here in your hometown.

The Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association, local churches, area businesses, the Orwigsburg Lions Club, and the Borough join together to help our community welcome the Christmas season with the annual Festival of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 3 on Centre Square. In the event of rain or snow, activities could be rescheduled to Sunday, Dec. 4.

The festivities "on the square" begin at 4:30 p.m. with the Blue Mountain High School band playing their merry tunes. You can visit the Nativity and examine the display of wreaths decorated by local businesses. Make sure to aid the Orwigsburg Lions Club serv-

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HOLIDAY EVENTS

Friday, Nov. 11 – Veterans Day service on Centre Square; 11 a.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12 – Stop and Shop plus Santa's Workshop at Salem UM Church, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Community-wide Thanksgiving Eve service; 7 p.m.; hosted at Salem UM Church, 133 South Liberty St.

Saturday, Nov. 26 – Children's Christmas Party; 5 to 8 p.m.; Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall; area children up to 10 years of age and parents/grandparents. FREE!

Saturday, Dec. 3 – Holly Trail, sponsored by the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library; 12 noon to 4 p.m.; tickets and tour program/map available at the library; call 570-366-1638.

Saturday, Dec. 3 – Festival of Lights; 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Orwigsburg Centre Square; program, food, entertainment, and trolley ride with Santa.

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2016 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

209 N. Warren Street
Orwigsburg, PA 17961 • Ph: 570-366-3103
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
www.orwigsburg.net

OFFICIALS

Mayor..... Barry Berger
Council President..... Buddy Touchinsky
Council Vice President..... Susan Murphy
Borough Manager..... Robert A. Williams
Secretary..... Sherry Edwards
Treasurer..... Colleen Hoptak
Tax Receiver..... Colleen Hoptak
Solicitor..... Paul Datte, Esq.
Borough Engineers..... ARRO Consulting, Inc.
Entech Engineering, Inc.
Alfred Benesch & Company
Fire Chief..... Dave Hardinger

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Brian Baldwin • Paul Bedway, Jr.
Darle Cresswell • Edward Mady
Angela Hoptak-Solga

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency..... Dial 9-1-1
Non-emergency..... 570-366-3101
Stanley Brozana, Chief
Brandon Bayer • Robert Bechtel • John Koury

STREET DEPARTMENT

Jake Brensinger • David Teter
Slade Bugajinsky • Devin Deibert

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Jake Brensinger • David Teter

BOROUGH OFFICE

Sherry Edwards • Kathi Mengle

Orwigsburg Borough Council meets the First and Second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, second floor of the Orwigsburg Municipal Building, 209 North Warren Street.

Both meetings are open to the public. A Work Session for discussions and setting of an agenda takes place on the First Wednesday; the Business Meeting is then held on the Second Wednesday.

OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Orwigsburg Borough offices will be closed on the following days in 2016 in observance of the stated holidays – New Year's Day, Jan. 1; Good Friday, March 25; Memorial Day, May 30; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, September 5; Thanksgiving, Nov. 24 and 25; Christmas eve and day, Dec. 23 and 26.

Festival of Lights

– Continued from Page 1

ing up hot and cold food items on the Community Parking Lot.

The Festival of Lights program begins at 5 p.m. and will feature the winners of the Holiday Home Decorating and the BMEE Coloring Contest, lighting of the community Christmas tree, Centre Square decorations, lighting of candles, singing of carols, and the story of Christmas.

As always the evening ends with an early visit from Santa Claus, riding a vintage trolley. The trolley offers a free ride around the Square enabling children to visit with Santa and share their Christmas wishes. Lastly, plan a stop at one of our local restaurants for a nice dinner out to usher in the Christmas season.

Earlier in the afternoon, travel the Orwigsburg Library's Holly Trail from noon to 4 p.m. Tour some of the town's wonderfully decorated homes and enjoy the traditional tea and cookie stop at Kimmels Church complete with a picture memory, listen to live music, and relax with good friends. For tickets and more information, contact the Orwigsburg Library at 570-366-1638.

To enter your Orwigsburg, Deer Lake, or McKeesburg area home for the Christmas Home Decorating Contest, residents should decorate early and contact Kimmels Church at 570-943-2759 to be seen by November 28. Prizes will be awarded during the Festival of Lights festivities.



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Sat. and Sun. – 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



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HOURS OF OPERATION

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Closed - Saturday and Sunday

*Evenings By Appointment



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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

Santa's Workshop set Nov. 12

Team Orwigsburg will sponsor a homemade soup and bake sale on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 8 a.m. until sold out, in conjunction with the Salem Church annual "Stop and Shop" day. The Team will host an early visit by Santa Claus who will be eager to listen to children's hopes and dreams for Christmas 2016.

Children might be able to find just the right gift for their family members in Santa's Workshop. There is no charge for Santa's Workshop or the gifts that have been donated by Team members for the children to browse through. Santa's elves will be on hand to help the children. Parents will be asked to wait outside the Workshop door while the children are "shopping."

Team Orwigsburg appreciates all the community support as it begins spring 2017 plans to help an out-of-state community where severe weather has taken its toll on those less fortunate. The group's motto of "healing hearts and homes" is spread often whether travel takes members to a distant disaster location or they work in Schuylkill County, making a difference in



the lives of those helped.

Team Orwigsburg is a faith-based mission team that meets at Salem United Methodist Church, 133 South Liberty St., on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Contact Susan McCartney at 570-943-2103 to learn more about this mission team.

Children's Christmas party

All area children, up to 10 years of age, and their parents and grandparents are invited to the fourth annual Orwigsburg Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Nov. 26 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Sponsored by Market Street Wash Rite and Classy III, Inc., the newly remodeled Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall, Grove and North Washington streets, will welcome all to this FREE event. No prior registration is required this year.

Free hot dogs and drinks will be served. Children will be treated to an evening of fun, including face painting and crafts. Santa is expected to make a special visit to Orwigsburg to meet with all the children at this event and receive their Christmas present "wish list."

Santa will arrive at 5:30 p.m. and the evening will conclude with the movie showing of "Elf" starring Will Farrell and James Caan beginning at 6:30 p.m. Bleacher seating is available for the movie or attendees are encouraged to bring blankets for floor seating.

This children's Christmas party is a supporter of the annual Toys for Tots campaign of the U.S. Marine Corps. Families are asked to bring a new, unwrapped, children's present for the Toys for Tots collection.



Light up Orwigsburg

The lights on our community tree and the trees on the square will be lighted on December 3 during the Festival of Lights. Will you help make Orwigsburg shine even brighter this holiday season by placing holiday electric candles on window sills at your home or business?

– Continued on page 6

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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Calling all veterans

In an effort to recognize all Orwigsburg veterans at the refurbished Veterans Community Memorial Hall, the project's development taskforce is requesting the names of service members (living or dead) from the Orwigsburg area who served our great country in the armed forces. If you, a family



member, friend, neighbor, associate, or if you have knowledge of the military service of a member of our community, please forward your/their name, rank, branch of service, and the dates of federal service to Borough Manager Robert Williams at 570-366-3103 or robert@orwigsburg.net

Borough holiday schedule

Orwigsburg Borough will close its office in observance of these coming holidays – Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24-25, Thanksgiving; Friday and Monday, Dec. 23 and 26, Christmas; and Monday, Jan. 2, 2017, New Years Day.

Declared "Snow Emergency"

The Borough has reduced the number of design-

nated "Snow Emergency" streets through Orwigsburg in order for the snow plow crews to efficiently stay ahead of a major snowfall this winter. Fewer snow emergency streets will mean less stress for many residents by not having to move their vehicles off the street right away ... and, if they are required, will now have convenient streets allowing parking.



Beginning with the 2016-2017 wintry weather, the designated "Snow Emergency" routes are: all of East and West Market streets, including both sides of Centre Square; South Liberty Street, and North Washington Street. Proper signage will be found on these streets and the signage removed from previous streets that are no longer so designated.

During a snow and/or ice event, the Mayor of Orwigsburg may declare an official "Snow Emergency."



Residents will be made aware of the emergency by notice posted to the borough website and Facebook page, through announcements on radio stations WPPA-AM and WAVT-FM, and by notice in the Republican Herald newspaper.

Households registered with the Borough's direct notification system – Swiftreach 911 – will receive a phone call with a pre-recorded message from the Borough, an email, or text message depending on which method was requested. If you have not already done so, add your contact information via the Swiftreach link on the home page of the borough website: www.orwigsburg.net.

All vehicles parked on the designated "Snow Emergency" streets must be removed for a period of 24 hours once the emergency is declared or for a longer period as instructed.

Vehicles not removed in violation of the emergency procedure will be ticketed and will be towed. The vehicle owner is responsible for all towing costs. Ignorance of the declared emergency is not an excuse. It's your responsibility to find out.

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If something were
to happen to you

today,

would your family know
what to do?

Do they know your wishes and would your final arrangements be exactly as you wish? Whenever anyone dies, "someone" is required to see to a host of responsibilities. Who will meet those responsibilities for you?

That's why preplanning is such a great idea. It allows you to come to grips with the inevitable, helping you alleviate your fears of the burden of a funeral to your family. Best of all, you can plan your funeral, determine how much you will need to spend, and then make monthly payments for preneed insurance, so there's not a big out-of-pocket expense.

We encourage you not to put this off and invite you to learn more about the thoughtful advantages of pre-planning your final wishes. This can be done at the funeral home, or if you prefer, in the privacy of your home. In appreciation for responding and visiting with us we are offering a complimentary *My Planning Guide*™ at our first appointment. Please call today for more information and to setup an appointment.

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**Life, like an investment, requires an exit strategy.
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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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Refuse/recycling collection

The Borough contracts with County Waste for the weekly collection of refuse and biweekly recycling collection. Curbside collection is on Tuesday for properties on Market Street and north ... and on Friday for properties south of Market Street.



Pickup will be delayed one day for residents with Friday pickup due to the Thanksgiving holiday. That pickup for properties south of Market Street will be on Saturday, Nov. 26. Christmas and New Year holidays will not affect the refuse and recycling collection.

The 3-year contract for refuse and recycling collection ends at the end of the year. The Borough is currently seeking proposals for a new 3-year contract. Residents will be notified of any changes in the new year.

The Borough has adopted the International Property Maintenance Code that requires refuse kept outdoors to be stored in a leak-proof container with a close-fitting cover.

Recycling electronics

Federal law prohibits landfill disposal of desktop computers, laptops, monitors and peripherals, and televisions. These electronics must be recycled. County Waste will not take these in normal refuse and

recycling collection.

Electronics recycling events are held periodically through the Schuylkill County Office of Solid Waste. When dates and locations are known, this information will be posted to the borough website and in this publication. Store your unwanted electronics until then.

Large item disposal

One large item may be placed at the curb beside your regular trash once per month.

Regular trash consists of up to six bags of garbage and up to ten bags of leaves. Residents should place trash at the curb any time after 6 p.m. on evenings prior to collection.

Month	Tues.	Fri.
Nov.	8	11
Dec.	13	16
Jan.	10	13
Feb.	14	17

LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES

Because pickup times vary, do not wait until the morning of collection to place garbage.

Construction materials (shingles, drywall, cabinets, insulation, etc.) may not be placed at the curb with your regular trash. You must get a dumpster which can be leased from the borough's trash collector, County Waste, at 570-874-3047.

Request for cones

Cones are available for use from the Borough. A

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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

cone request form must be filled out and is available from the borough office. Forty-eight hours notice must be given to allow time to get the cones delivered to their location and signs made and placed on the cones.

Albright's Woods

Now is the time to plan that 2017 outdoor event. The pavilion at Albright's Woods is available for rent for your graduation party, family reunion or other event. Albright's Woods is located on Grove Street in Orwigsburg. The park has a pavilion with picnic tables and a kitchen available for use. Rental fee for the kitchen is \$75, \$25 of which is a returnable security deposit. If the kitchen is not needed, a \$25 fee is charged. For further details or to make a reservation to reserve the park facilities, call the borough office at 570-366-3103.



Owner/tenant forms

Reminder to all landlords: Orwigsburg Borough Ordinance #396 requires that every owner/lessor of any apartment, house or other type of rental building shall register with the Borough every year. If any

tenant moves from the dwelling during the year, the owner shall notify the Borough within thirty (30) days of said changes. Forms are available at the borough office or from the borough website.

In addition, landlords living in excess of 20 miles from the Borough must designate a local manager for the property. This individual must live within 10 miles of the borough.

Call before you dig!

Contractors, service companies, or do-it-yourself property owners must call 8-1-1 before disturbing the ground in and around their property. Planting a tree? Building a deck? Installing a fence or even as simple as a mailbox, plan your project in advance and call the alert number several days before starting any digging project.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Tell the operator where you're planning to dig. Your affected local utility companies will be notified about your intent to dig and will send locators to your dig site to mark the approximate location of buried lines with flags or paint.

Utility bills

As this newsletter is being published, the due date for quarterly utility bills is fast approaching. It is the

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GIVE THE GIFT OF HOMETOWN MEMORIES



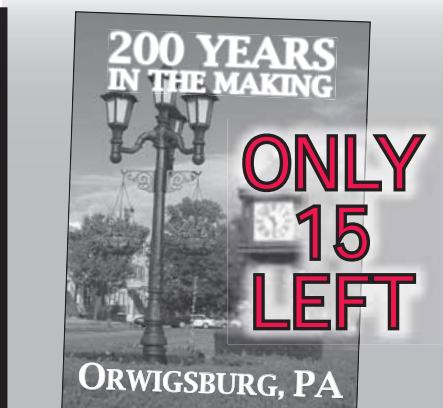
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OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

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responsibility of all property owners to pay their bills in full by the due date printed on the invoice.

The Borough relies on these payments in order to meet the debt service and operating costs for the water, wastewater and sanitation services. If a bill is not paid after a short grace period, collection efforts will be initiated. If efforts to collect payments are unsuccessful, additional steps could include interruption of service and/or a lien placed on your property.

NOTICE WATER SHUT OFF

Property owners are responsible for all costs incurred to collect past due obligations.

To avoid these actions and additional costs, property owners must make payment arrangements with the Borough. Have accounts up to date or a payment arrangement in place by then to avoid loss of service.

Mail your payment to 209 N. Warren St., Orwigsburg, or drop it off during regular hours at the Municipal Building. A "drop box" has been located at the front door for your convenience if paying after hours. Do not include cash when dropping off your payment.

Getting the word out

We use the Borough website www.orwigsburg.net

as a valuable tool to keep residents and property owners informed about the happenings in the Borough. Our staff will keep the home page current with news on upcoming events and information on past events in the Borough.

The website lists borough meeting schedules. Minutes from these meetings are posted after they have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate body. The subdivision and zoning codes are also available for all to view. Numerous forms can be accessed, including applications for Albright's Woods usage. Trash day pickup changes will also be posted. Links to other websites, such as the Lions Club, library, churches and fire company are on the website.



The website also includes a link allowing residents to enter their contact information into the borough's Swiftreach 911 emergency notification system. This site allows the Borough to notify residents via telephone, text message and email of boil water advisories, weather emergencies or any other emergencies in a prompt manner.

Proper disposal of Old Glory

Used flags may be brought to the borough office for proper disposal. Place flags inside the designated mailbox-like container in front of the borough building.

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Show Dates – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2016 —————
Nov. 12 • Nov. 26 • Dec. 3
Dec. 10 • Dec. 17

2017 —————
Jan. 28 • Feb. 4 • Feb. 11

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Newsletter Particulars

"Orwigsburg Happenings" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Orwigsburg distributed to 1,400 households within the borough.

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Ph: 570-385-3120 • Fax: 570-385-0725

E-mail: printing@southschuylkill.net
www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com

Publication dates for the next three issues are
February 10, May 12, and August 11, 2017

News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Kathi Mengle in the borough offices, kathi@orwigsburg.net or call 570-366-3103 for info, three weeks prior to the publication date.

Advertising

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Orwigsburg are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information. Call Barb @ 570-385-3120. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Orwigsburg.

Borough Services Update

In need of health aids?

Are you or a loved one in need of any of these items to aid in recovery from illness or surgery?

- Wheelchair
- Walker – stationary & folding
- Hospital bed – manual & electric
- Cane – single and multi-legged
- Crutches
- Shower seat
- Bedside commode/bedpan
- Over-toilet seat with handrails
- Temporary tub hand rail
- Recliner chair with auto-lift seat



The Orwigsburg Lions' "Health Equipment Loan Program" provides these items to local residents at no

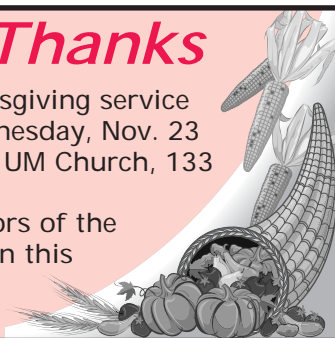
Who Ya Gonna Call?

Emergency	9-1-1
Non-Emergency	570-628-3792
Borough Office	570-366-3103
Police Department	570-366-3101
Friendship Fire	570-366-1500
Historical Society	570-366-8769
District Magistrate	570-366-0244
Tax Collector	570-366-0288
Library	570-366-1638

Let's Give Thanks

The community Thanksgiving service this year will be held Wednesday, Nov. 23 beginning 7 p.m. at Salem UM Church, 133 South Liberty Street.

All residents and visitors of the region are invited to join in this Thanksgiving community service.



charge as a community service. To arrange a loan, call Walt Schimpf at 570-366-0784 or call 570-449-0659 and leave a message.

Curb your animal

Borough Ordinance 299 prohibits pet owners from allowing their pets to defecate on another property without removing the feces from that property. Those violating this ordinance can be fined up to \$600.

Many residents take advantage of the parks and walking trail and are discouraged by the lack of consideration shown by some pet owners.

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Message from the Council President

We're wrapping up another year here in the Borough, and I wanted to take this opportunity to provide some insight into some of the decisions Borough Council will be facing over the next few months.



BUDDY TOUCHINSKY
Council President

Probably the most pressing issue is the budget. Last year, in order to balance our expenses and revenue, it was necessary to raise taxes. It's been a productive year in the Borough and our staff was able to keep expenses within budget.

Budgeted for the last half of the year was adding an extra police officer; but, that hasn't yet been accomplished. If we had hired that officer as planned, the budget would have been much tighter. The hiring delay ended up helping the budget.

Before the end of the year, we'll be working to figure out if we can continue as is, or if taxes will have to go up another mill. No one ever wants to see taxes increase, of course, and maybe we won't have to; but, I wanted to be completely transparent and honest about our current situation.

Adding to the police force

The next issue is the question whether to hire

one or two police officers. As mentioned, there was a delay this year in hiring an additional police officer to help cover all shifts and reduce overtime. This delay was due to the need to update our civil service policies and procedures, something the Borough hadn't done for decades. We felt this was necessary prior to hiring any new officers ... and it took time.

We currently have several police applicants and will be going through the process to hire at least one officer. Chief Stanley Brozana has indicated he will retire by the end of May 2017; so, it may be wise to hire a second officer now from our pool of candidates.

Continue infrastructure improvements

Streets, buildings, stormwater management, and the water and sewer systems are always being assessed by our staff and professional engineers. We have an aging infrastructure, and it is important for us to maintain a plan for preventative maintenance, repairs, and updates to these structures.

We're well aware of several streets across town that need immediate attention. This year the major project was South Warren and South Wayne Streets, but there is much more work to be done. Our challenge will be to balance funds that are available with the amount of work that needs to be done. Borough Council, staff, and engineers will be working on a plan to systematically address deficient streets and other infrastructure needs.

Public dog park ... revisited

On a lighter note, we may see a resurgence of interest to create a public dog park in the Borough. A new group of individuals formed the Playful Pack Park Association (this group can be found on Facebook), and they will be coming to council in the new year to present their plan to raise money, construct, and manage a dog park on public space within the Borough. Council has been hesitant to approve such a park in the past, so if you would like to see this get done, letters of support addressed to council, or contacting council members you know, may help.

Finally, thank you to our Borough staff for a great year. We've asked a lot of them having to work through several large projects and taking on new tasks to move the Borough forward.

The same goes to our residents. There have been several situations over this past year that required communication and cooperation between our staff and residents. Nothing is always perfect; but, for the most part we've all worked together to get the job done and do what's best for our Borough.





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Orwigsburg Lions Club

The Orwigsburg Lions Club had a very busy year in 2016, providing continued dedication and service to the Orwigsburg community.

In April, the Lions hosted its biggest and most popular event, the Miss America Pageant! Our eight "stunning" contestants strutted their stuff on stage, showed off their various talents, and put together some dance routines that no one in the audience will soon forget (unfortunately)! The Lions Club extends its sincerest thanks to the local businesses that sponsored the event and to everyone who attended.

The Lions members work hard to advance projects for the community. Funds raised from this and other Lions activities supported by residents and businesses make this all possible. Other activities hosted by the Lions in 2016 included the Easter egg hunt at Albright's Woods, the annual Memorial Day chicken barbecue at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall, a golf tournament at Hidden Valley Golf Course, and, of course one of the Lions' signature events, the annual Orwigsburg Halloween parade.

Other activities included the purchase and distribution of Easter meals to families in need through the Orwigsburg Food Pantry, helping to raise funds for MDA at Schaeffer's Harley-Davidson's spring event, conducting two litter cleanup days along the main

roads through town, and maintenance/cleanup events at Albright's Woods and the walking trail.

To round out the year, the Orwigsburg Lions will be involved in another big community event, the Festival of Lights celebration. We invite everyone to come to Orwigsburg's Centre Square on Saturday, Dec. 3 to kick off the holiday season with the tree lighting, Christmas carol sing, and lots of hot and delicious food served up by the Lions.

Find out more about the Orwigsburg Lions Club, its activities, and possibly become a member by emailing Lions Club president Ed Winklebauer at ewinklebauer@rbryon.com. The Lions hold regular meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.



SPREAD THE WORD

Interested in submitting an article for next quarter's issue of **Orwigsburg Happenings**? We welcome community service and non-profit organization information. Please contact Kathi Mengle at 570-366-3103 or kathi@orwigsburg.net

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Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

What a busy, busy, busy summer was enjoyed at the Orwigsburg Library. Well, there's no slowing down as many activities continue through the fall and winter months.

Stop in at 214 E. Independence St. and be a part of what's happening. To find out more: call 570-366-1638, visit our website www.orwigsburglibrary.org, or find us on Facebook at OrwigsburgAreaFreePublicLibrary.

So many services offered

What does the library provide Orwigsburg and surrounding communities?

- Clubs that meet weekly and monthly. The Orwigsburg Book Club meets the last Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Knitters, crochet and needlework enthusiasts gather every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Mahjongg players meet the first and third (and fifth when it occurs) Wednesdays of every month at 6 p.m. Lego builders of all ages come together on the second Wednesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
- Story Time – Geared for pre-school age children, a special "story hour" is planned each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. This fun time includes a story, song, movement, and crafts.
- Play K program – Get your three to five year old youngsters ready for kindergarten. Upcoming topics are: Nov. 17 and 18 – Amazing Animals and Pets; Dec. 29 and 30 – Writing. Each month



the first date is a Thursday starting at 6 p.m.; the second date is a Friday with the program at 10:30 a.m. The program models kindergarten concepts and behaviors.

- Set a reading goal – Parents, introduce your child to the excitement, fantasy, and love of reading. Stop in and register your young reader in the "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" early literacy program.

Upcoming events and fundraisers

- Saturday, Nov. 5 – The library will hold a yard sale fundraiser, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the parking lot. Cost for participants is \$10 for a six-by-six-foot space.
- Thursday, Nov. 10 – Lark Clothing presents a 6 p.m. illustrated talk on "Less Stress When You Dress" for the holidays.
- Thursday, Dec. 1 – All ages are welcome to create their own holiday greeting cards. It all starts at 6 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 2 – A kick-off party the evening before the Orwigsburg Library's Holly Trail will take place at Vintage This, Repurpose That on Rt. 61 beginning at 6 p.m. There is an admission cost of \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. This includes the Friday party, an exclusive holiday ornament, and a ticket for the Holly Trail on Saturday.
- Saturday, Dec. 3 – A "Holly Trail Brunch" (not

R&J TOURS – 2016 HAPPENINGS

Nov 24 – Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.....	\$ 40
Nov 27 – Longwood Gardens Christmas.....	**\$ 50
Nov 28 – Radio City Christmas Spectacular.....	\$117
Nov 29 – "Green Holly & Gray Potatoes" @ Rainbow Dinner Theatre.....	\$ 74
Nov 30 – "Our Christmas Dinner" Bird-in-Hand Stage (Lunch Smorgasbord)	\$ 88
Dec 1 – Christmas on the Potomac (2 Nights/3 Days).....	\$551 DBL
Dec 1 – Brenda Lee @ Caesars Atlantic City (\$25 FSP & Performance)	\$ 81
Dec 3 – Gourmet Food Shopping.....	\$ 41
Dec 3 – "Jingle Arrgh The Way" @ Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre	\$ 40
Dec 3 – Radio City Christmas Spectacular.....	\$150
Dec 6 – Mt. Airy Casino Show: The Drifters (\$20 FSP, Lunch Buffet)	\$ 63
Dec 7 – "Winter Wonderland" at AMT (Holiday Feast at Plain & Fancy)	**\$ 89
Dec 7 – Radio City Christmas Spectacular (NO Free Time).....	\$117
Dec 10 – Christmas in Cape May (Candlelight House Tour & more).....	\$137
Dec 14 – Radio City Christmas Spectacular	\$117
Dec 17 – New York City Free Day	\$ 40
Dec 28 – New York City Free Day	\$ 40
Dec 31 – Sands New Years Eve	\$ 24
Jan 25 – Dover Downs (1 Night, \$50 Slot Dollars, Breakfast Buffet)	DBL \$121
Feb 4 – Philadelphia Auto Show	\$ 43
Feb 11 – "Rock 'n' Garth", Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.....	\$ 84
Mar 15 – Branson at the Beach, Ocean City, MD (2 nights, 5 shows, 4 meals)	DBL \$608
Apr 23 – Spotlight on New Orleans w/Collette Vacations.....	DBL \$2,199
May 16 – Enchanting Long Island.....	DBL \$517

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Orwigsburg Library

included on the Holly Trail) will be held at the Schuylkill Country Club from 9 a.m. to noon.

- Saturday, Dec. 3 – The 34th annual Holly Trail tour of local homes and churches will be held from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Tickets for the Holly Trail alone are available at the Orwigsburg Library for \$15 in advance, \$20 the day of the event. A program with map will be provided at the start of the "trail" from the library.
- Thursday, Dec. 8 – Bring the youngsters for a children's story and craft, featuring snowmen, at 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 10 – "Make and Take" a Williamsburg-inspired holiday table centerpiece. This hands-on program will be hosted by the Schuylkill County Master Gardeners, starting at 9:30 a.m. Participants must register in advance as there is limited space available. The cost is \$20.
- Thursday, Feb. 9 – Is love in your cards? Find out during this special program, beginning at 6 p.m., on tarot card reading.
- Help the library as you shop ... designate the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library when shopping at Amazon.smile.com ... get your Boyer's Food Market keytag at the library circulation desk and scan it every time you shop at Boyer's ... or save your register tape when shopping at Redner's food stores.



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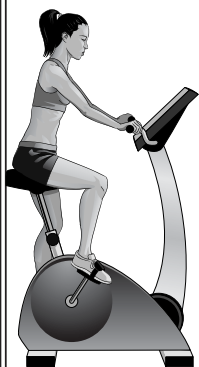
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Orwigsburg Business & Professional Assoc.

With Halloween now behind us, Thanksgiving on the horizon, and 50-or-so shopping days until Christmas, it's an opportune time to reflect on "the year that was" for the Orwigsburg Business and Professional Association (OBPA) and look forward to 2017.

During the past 10 months, OBPA membership has increased by ten percent and we are now 93 strong. Through the planning and the active participation by these members, residents and visitors to the Orwigsburg area have enjoyed many activities and events.

In early spring, Chad Reinert's rousing concert at the beautifully renovated Veterans Community Memorial Hall kicked off the season. Not long after Chad's performance, OBPA held its second annual "Get to Know Us Spring Mixer" for current and prospective members.

The outdoor season began with the most successful June Jamboree so far, featuring area wineries and artists. Family Fun Fest gave young and old alike the chance to enjoy each other on a perfect August summer evening. A silver anniversary (25th annual) Heritage Celebration in early September showcased a new layout using the entire Centre Square to accommodate a record number of vendors and activities.



ALL DRESSED UP FOR CHILI AND CHILLS

The Chili and Chills celebration of All Hallows Eve offered amateur chefs a chance to treat the town to their own chili creations while being surrounded by ghoulish and goofily-costumed patrons.

Moving from creepy to Christmas, the last happening of 2016 is the beautiful and tranquil diversion from the crazy holiday season, our Festival of Lights. This traditional event features the songs and sounds of the season while offering area businesses the chance to show off their creative side through the wreath-decorating contest.

High profile events and concerts help to keep the OBPA organization front and center in the community, but some of its most important work often goes unnoticed. Through joint cooperation, OBPA has forged a strong relationship with the Orwigsburg Lions, Women Who Care, Team Orwigsburg, Friendship Fire Company, Orwigsburg Historical Society and the Orwigsburg Area Library. OBPA is a pledged member of the Veteran's Memorial Task Force 300 Club and routinely has a representative at the monthly Borough Council meetings.

As part of its plan to build a bridge to the future, OBPA established a scholarship supporting the Young Entrepreneurs Academy offered through the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce and has also created a business/community scholarship for deserving Blue Mountain High School students.

OBPA is working with Orwigsburg Borough to foster ideas for improvements, including the eventual installation of electricity and a band shelter at the Community Parking Lot on Centre Square, site of many town activities.

OBPA encourages fresh ideas from individuals and businesses for improvements and is always open to new members. Or, if it's none of the above, maybe you'll just want to purchase one of our unique and colorful t-shirts. Whatever your interest, you can learn more at our website www.orwigsburgbusiness.org or by calling Pat Falco at 610-462-9168.



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State Representative Jerry Knowles

Combatting Pennsylvania's Opioid, Overdose Crisis

Ten Pennsylvanians are dying each day as a result of drug overdoses. Not unique to our state, across the United States more people are killed by this crisis than automobile crashes.



Opioids are a class of drugs derived from or pharmacologically similar to opiates. While these analgesics are the most effective pharmaceuticals for killing pain, they carry with them a significant risk of addiction. Abuse of these drugs has resulted in a public health crisis for our state.

In late September, Governor Wolfe addressed a joint session of the General Assembly to emphasize the magnitude of the effects of opioid and heroin abuse. During his speech, he mentioned several House bills addressing this crisis that he would like to sign into law as soon as possible. These bills passed the House in June and are awaiting consideration by the Senate.

The bills will address this serious opioid crisis in the following ways:

- Improve insurance coverage of abuse-deterrent opioids;
- Set a limit on opioid prescriptions in emergency rooms;
- Require prescribers and dispensers to undergo continuing education in pain management, addiction and prescribing practices;
- Mandate that publicly funded recovery houses have the opioid overdose antidote on hand; and,
- Direct the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to find ways to increase access to addiction treatment through health plans.

There is broad consensus the opioid issue plagues all groups of Pennsylvanians – not differentiating by race, region, religion, income or any other factor. Government at the local, state and federal levels are focusing on this problem. Find out more from these legislative issues at:

www.pahousegop.com/opioid.aspx



**Representative
Jerry Knowles**



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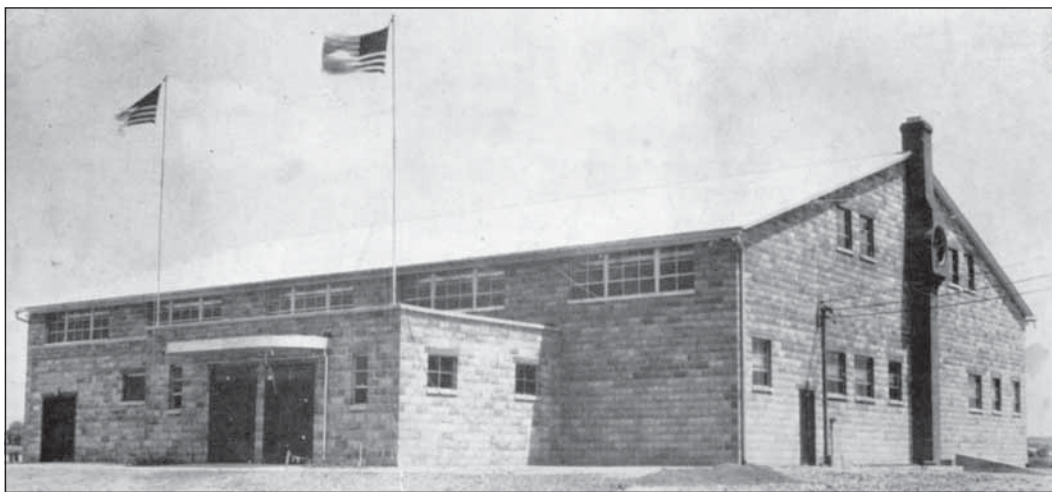
Veterans Community Memorial Hall

New name ... same building ... same meaning

This past September you may have noticed the lettering on the building was revised from "Community Memorial Hall" to "Veterans Community Memorial Hall." That change was a result of a motion and unanimous decision by Borough Council. With that said, the following is some history relative to the building and the name.

This modern and refurbished building was originally made possible by the "Community Memorial Incorporated" organization during the late 1940s. It was dedicated on July 22, 1950. As published in the Dedication Ceremony Program and on the original bronze plaque that hangs inside the building, the building was "Dedicated to the memory of the veterans of all wars."

Following the end of World War II, the history of its formal inception began Monday, Nov. 12, 1945 – the day after Armistice Day, later renamed Veterans Day – with a mass meeting presided over by the presi-



ORIGINAL VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING IN 1950

dent of Town Council, Harry G. Fegley.

At that meeting, it was enthusiastically determined to build a suitable memorial to the Orwigsburg Veterans. All men, women, and children of Orwigsburg were to be represented in carrying out the project, and a coordinating committee was subsequently appointed. Moving forward the "Community Memorial Incorporated" was developed – consisting of residents and local business owners. The board officers and board members included: Harry G. Fegley, president; Elmer E. Steinbrunn, vice president; Linwood Krater, secretary; Harold C. Schoener, treasurer; and Board Members W.F. Darkes, John W. Morrison, B. Frank Fisher, Franklin C. Spittler, Lester D. Snow, and Guy E. Waltman.

There were also sixty one members of the committee-at-large placed on committees to execute the enormous amount of work required on the project. Committees included Campaign, Site & Building, and Program.

The first official meeting was held on November 21, 1945 in the Orwigsburg High School auditorium. Meetings continued weekly until the dedication in July 1950. Wow! – talk about dedicated volunteers!

The dedication ceremony was a grand display of community support, community involvement and

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Veterans Community Memorial Hall

patriotism that transformed our entire town. Distinguished guests included the Governor of Pennsylvania, the Honorable James H. Duff, giving the dedication address, and another key speaker, the state Secretary of the Senate, the Honorable G. Harold Watkins.

Many community members provided donations, financial support, pledges and participated in auctions and community booster dinners. The plot of land at the juncture of North Washington and Grove streets was conveyed from Elmer E. & Irma A. Steinbrunn to Community Memorial, Inc. for \$1.00 on March 2, 1956.

The building and land parcel were later conveyed to Orwigsburg Borough on February 23, 1967. As part of that conveyance, it was indicated the building should carry the inscription "Community Memorial Hall," should display the bronze plaque, and it should be used to benefit the members of civic, govern-




NEWLY REMODELED VETERANS COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HALL


mental, charitable, patriotic, educational and similar common and public beneficial business servicing the community.

The building has been owned and operated by Orwigsburg Borough since that time. In recent years, the Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Development Task Force (OVMDTF), a 501.c.3 nonprofit-organization has worked to restore and upgrade the building for continued use ... and more importantly to continue to "Honor the Veterans of all Wars."

- Continued on page 20

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Veterans Community Memorial Hall

– Continued from Page 19

A rose by any other name ...

Over recent years, there was discussion about “the name” of the building. Was it “The Memorial,” “Community Memorial,” “Veterans Memorial,” etc? Whatever anyone thought it was supposed to be called, everyone realized the building was built to honor the veterans of all wars, both living and dead, and it was to be used as a community building moving forward.

Through various conversations by the OVMDTF – with Borough Council, local veterans organizations and residents – it was apparent adding the word “Veterans” in front of “Community Memorial Hall” would be appropriate. This proposal was presented to Borough Council for formal approval to change the name on the building and the electronic message sign. Through the continued support of Bartush Signs, one of this project’s most dedicated supporters, the lettering was added to the building.

The above was a short overview of the history of the building – the OVMDTF and Orwigsburg Historical Society have copies of the original dedication program and newspaper clippings from the event. You can view this information at the next event held at the building.

Just as in the original construction, the Veterans Memorial is now being renovated through the hard work, effort and generosity of community-minded

individuals, donating money, time and materials in all shapes and sizes. For more information on the project, visit the website www.orwigsburgmemorial.org or the Facebook page.

Update on the renovation

Playground improvements, including new swings and a play structure designed for five to 12 year old youngsters, is nearing completion. The wooden floor basketball court indoors is to be resurfaced before year’s end. This involves sanding, repairing as needed, sealing, and line-stripping.

Exterior site work – concrete patio, parking lot upgrades and stormwater improvements – will go out for contractor bids with work scheduled to begin in the spring.

A state DCNR grant application to help replace the previous outdoor basketball court with one to be located adjacent to the building where the old swingset now stands is pending approval. The goal is to have the outside court installed in 2017. If the application is not approved, a hard push for local fundraising will be needed.

Another grant request has been submitted to make improvements to the Veterans Room located in the new addition and front entrance area. This room will display the Veterans Honor Roll listing all Orwigsburg area veterans.

– Greg Stewart, outgoing President,
Veterans Memorial Development Task Force

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Proclamation from the Orwigsburg Mayor

This issue of *Orwigsburg Happenings* covers the back half of autumn and the front end of winter.



BARRY J. BERGER
Mayor

Opportunities abound to enjoy this lovely time of year throughout our community.

As I mentioned last issue, our first challenge of November is Election Day. We have the privilege of helping to select the next President of the United States despite the challenge of choosing between a bombastic narcissist and a serial liar.

Since character appears to be a mutually excluded factor, make your deci-

sion based on who will best serve the interests of your family and yourself. Get out, vote (hold your nose as necessary), then head to the Masonic Lodge for some sauerkraut to cleanse the palate.

This is a great time to get out and walk around town to enjoy the changing foliage and view the holiday decorations. If you enjoy a larger challenge, the thousands of acres of state game land areas, state forests, and Hawk Mountain Sanctuary are all within a few minutes drive from the borough.

Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's celebrations are wonderful occasions to join with family and friends. May you and yours enjoy the best of these days.

This year's change of seasons is also bringing changes in the Orwigsburg Police Department. Even though at times it may appear that Orwigsburg is something akin to Andy Griffith's "Mayberry", we enjoy our relatively crime-free community through our proactive approach to preserving the peace.

Although no place is immune, issues are much easier to prevent before they present rather than to control after they arise. Much of the credit for this atmosphere in Orwigsburg belongs to Chief Stanley Brozana. Stan has served this Borough for decades and provided sound guidance for the police department.

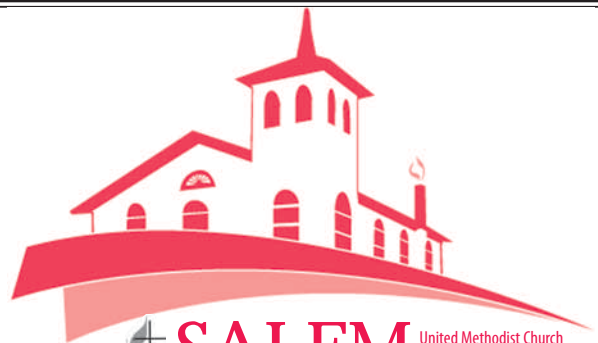
As the Chief approaches his retirement, we are looking ahead to the future. We began this year with approval to hire an additional full-time officer to more effectively provide "around the clock" police coverage. This process required an update to our forty-plus-year-old Civil Service regulations, taking more than six months to review, rewrite, and gain various approvals.

Eleven applicants responded to our search for that additional police officer, each sitting for written examinations on October 13. After third party grading, eligible candidates will be physically tested and individually interviewed by our Civil Service Commission.

After that process is complete, Borough Council will interview the top candidates and make its selection. As this timeframe became further extended, it now seems possible to select two candidates from this applicant list, considering the impending retirement of Chief Brozana.

In closing, we all know everything changes as life goes on. New seasons and new faces in the community are just another sign that we're alive, well, and moving ahead. For that, I'm thankful.

– Barry J. Berger, Mayor



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Nov. 12 – Stop/Shop & Santa Workshop 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dec. 11 – The God Squad Holiday Performance at 8:45 and 10:45 a.m.
Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Worship at 4, 7 and 9 p.m.

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Orwigsburg Police Department

Winter weather advisories

As winter weather approaches, please use caution when traveling. The Borough streets crew will be working hard to make sure the streets in town are passable. Four wheel drive, all wheel drive, snow tires, and snow chains are helpful in adverse road conditions, but still require drivers to slow down and be alert.

If you must drive during or after a snowstorm ... for everyone's safety ... clear ALL snow off your vehicle! Section 4524 of the PA Vehicle Code prohibits ANY ice or snow on any window of a vehicle.

Simply brushing off enough snow to see through is still illegal. All snow must be removed. In addition, any snow on a roof, hood, or trunk must also be removed. For everyone's safety, police will stop vehicles that have

snow on them and drivers forced to clear them. You may also be subject to fines ranging from \$25 up to \$1,000. It's much easier, cheaper, and safer to brush the snow off before you get in your vehicle.

When shoveling snow from your sidewalk, do

not deposit snow into the street. Borough crews will be plowing and treating to clear all town streets. Property owners who put their snow and ice back into the street slow that process and make it unsafe for all. Shoveling snow into the street will result in a \$15 fine plus costs of prosecution.

During a major snowstorm, the Mayor may declare a Snow Emergency. During this time, vehicles on Snow Emergency Routes (posted with signs) must be moved off the street. Local television and radio stations will be notified when a snow emergency is declared.

You may also be contacted directly by the Borough through Swiftreach 911. Simply sign up on the borough's website and you will be contacted via phone for any snow emergencies or other public safety notifications.

Adding to the department

By the time this is printed, the borough will be underway in the process to hire a fifth full time officer. We expect to have him or her hired in early 2017, trained and hitting the street soon thereafter. More information will be provided in the next issue.

Your police department has placed into service two ballistic shields and is waiting delivery of ballistic helmets. This equipment was made possible through donations by several residents and business owners.

Current law enforcement training necessitates a need for more protection. Believe it or not, Orwigsburg police have responded to past incidents that could have utilized this equipment.

Santa's sled is legal

Last but not least, we will not respond to any calls involving Santa's sled and reindeer. Per the PA Vehicle Code it is legal to operate such a vehicle on the street.

Wishing all a very happy and safe holiday season, we'll see you all next year!

— Patrolman Robert Bechtel



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From the Desk of the Fire Chief

Fire Prevention Month Stresses Safety at Home

The title for the National Fire Protection Association's 2016 Fire Prevention Campaign is "Don't Wait – Check the Date." The message of the campaign is that age matters when it comes to smoke detectors. The service life of a smoke detector is 10 years. The age of a detector can be determined by checking the date of manufacture which is printed on its back. Any detector that is 10 years old should be replaced.

Since we are just entering the cold weather months of the year – when most residential fires occur – this is a good time to review smoke detectors and home fire safety tips. A working smoke detector should be installed in each bedroom, outside of every sleeping area and on each level of your home. The more smoke detectors you have throughout your home, the faster you will be warned that a fire has started. The detectors should be tested monthly to ensure the unit is in working order and that the battery is charged. Dead batteries should be replaced immediately.

You should sleep with bedroom doors closed. The bedroom smoke detector will warn the occupant of a fire that starts in that room, while the smoke detector outside the sleeping areas will alert you to a fire that started in another room. The closed door will keep out smoke, buying you more time to awaken and make your escape.

Plan escape routes from bedrooms with family members, especially children. Whenever possible, there should be an alternate method of escaping from a bedroom, such as a window onto a porch roof or an escape ladder.

If you are awakened by a smoke detector, feel the top, middle and bottom of the bedroom door. If it is hot don't open it. Exit the room by your alternate escape route. If it is cool to the touch, get down low

and open the door just a crack. If you are met with heat and smoke, close the door and exit the room by your alternate escape route. If the hallway is clear, exit the building.

Designate a meeting place outside – a safe distance from the building – where family members will meet once they have escaped from the building. Use a cellphone or a neighbor's telephone to call 9-1-1 to report the fire. Do NOT go back into the building for any reason. Leave that job to the firefighters.

Take a few minutes this weekend and practice your home fire drill. Send everyone to their bedroom, sound a smoke detector and follow the procedures for checking the bedroom door and exiting the house. Assemble at your meeting place and do a head count. Repeat as needed.

A few minutes of practice now, when everyone is calm and thinking clearly, may make a lifesaving difference during an actual emergency.

– Dave Hardinger, Fire Chief



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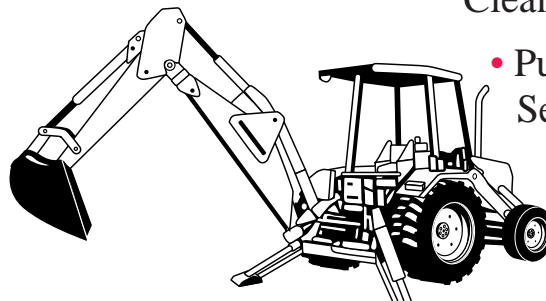
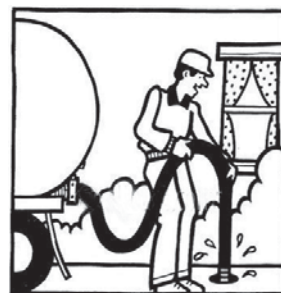
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St. John's United Church of Christ

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Traditional worship for contemporary souls

Dec. 3 – Holly Trail Nativity Display
Dec. 10 – Annual Christmas Cookie Sale
Dec. 18 – Christmas Cantata, 10 a.m.
Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 8 p.m.

Every Sunday – Worship and Sunday school at 10 a.m.
Communion the first Sunday of each month

State Senator David G. Argall

Concerns/Opportunities for the Commonwealth's Future

Too often, the legislature is so busy addressing the problems of today that we fail to look to long-term solutions for our issues.

As Senate Majority Policy Committee chair, I recently invited three experts on demographics from the University of Pennsylvania, Penn State



**SENATOR
DAVID ARGALL**

University and the University of Pittsburgh to discuss the future of Pennsylvania based on trends occurring ... not just here but across the country. The topic is broader than population trends. It includes impacts on local and state government, job creation, sustained economic growth and much more.

Pennsylvania continues to suffer from "brain drain" in that more young adults leave the state than move in. A recent article in Area Development, a leading site selection publication, featured the top 100 leading locations across the country. Not one Pennsylvania community was listed.

In her testimony, Dr. Jennifer Van Hook, director of the Population Research Institute and a professor of Sociology and Demography at Penn State

University, noted young adults seek economic opportunities in areas where they are educated and trained. In her experience, she has not seen a concerted effort from policymakers to reverse the "brain drain" in other states.

Another key point is that Pennsylvania once had the second-largest population of senior citizens by percentage. Currently, we are tied for fourth place.

According to Dr. Maureen McClure, an associate professor of Administrative and Policy Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, our commonwealth is much better off than many states facing systemic concerns, noting Pennsylvania's excellent resources in its many colleges/universities and private sector partners.

Inspired leadership needed

Over the summer, Governing, a magazine for state and local government leaders, highlighted the key differences in recession recovery between rural and urban America. This article was the genesis for my organizing the hearing.

The article hit on several key themes prevalent across Schuylkill County, including this quote from article author Alan Greenblatt: "As working-class jobs have dried up, rural communities have emptied out. Lots of rural towns around the country have come to resemble villages in wartime."

Greenblatt notes there is optimism for rural towns with strong leadership looking to the global economy. "Experts in the rural economy say what separates the winners from the many losers is inspired leadership on the ground, whether that's a plant owner who figures out a way to modernize and stay profitable, or economic development officials able to find a niche by building on successful enterprises or attractions that are already in place."

Communities like Orwigsburg serve as the positive example Greenblatt writes about – local leadership inspires change and revitalization. Many of our older rural communities could take a page out of the borough's playbook.



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Veterans' Day Service of Worship

Thursday, Nov. 10 – 7:30 p.m.

Songs from Sarah – Sunday, Nov. 20

6:00 p.m. – Benefits Food Pantry

Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, Dec. 21 – 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

Saturday, Dec. 24 – 7:30 p.m.

There will be no Christmas Day worship.

See our article for more details!

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Orwigsburg Historical Society



Orwigsburg Historical Society

Fall and winter are upon us ... but, this does not mean we all have to hibernate. A number of activities are perfectly suited to colder weather, such as visiting your local society and museum. The Orwigsburg Historical Society has added many new artifacts to the museum's growing collection. Plan a visit. We're now open on Tuesday and Thursday each week from noon to 4 p.m. and can be made available at other times by appointment. We're located in the original 1891 Friendship Hose Co. building at 109 East Mifflin St. Contact the society by calling 570-617-7809 or 570-366-8769 for more information regarding visits or any services.

Fall and winter are upon us ... but, this does not mean we all have to hibernate. A number of activities are perfectly suited to colder weather, such as visiting your local society and museum. The Orwigsburg Historical Society has added many new artifacts to the museum's growing collection.

Plan a visit. We're now open on Tuesday and

Tours and community room available

Individuals or groups are invited to schedule a visit or rent the museum for private parties, class reunions, etc. The large community room is also available for family reunions or other social or business gathering.

Capital Campaign continues

If you haven't already done so, you can help sustain Orwigsburg's history by donating to the 2016-2017 Capital Campaign. In addition to brick repointing, exterior painting, and interior wall repainting, the society is faced with two major projects ... furnace and roof repairs.

If you can offer any assistance, no donation is too small or insignificant and will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be designated "in honor of" or "in memory of" and can be the perfect gift for that person who has everything.

Gift-giving can be year-round

The Orwigsburg Historical Society has many gift ideas for Christmas, birthdays, and anniversaries. Society memberships, books, postcards, frameable cards, renderings of historic buildings, illusions, and photo reprints are just a few of the many gift ideas for purchase.



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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

St. Paul's Lutheran

Located at 215 North Warren St. in Orwigsburg, St. Paul's Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship and to be part of the church family. Weekly services are held on Saturday beginning at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

The office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and can be reached by calling 570-366-2316. Additional information can be obtained at www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org.



Several special holiday services and opportunities to see the beautifully decorated church have been planned. The public is encouraged to enjoy these services at this special time.

Residents are reminded a community-wide Thanksgiving Eve service will be hosted by Salem United Methodist Church, 133 S. Liberty St., on Wednesday, Nov. 23 beginning at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, Dec. 3 during the Orwigsburg Holly Trail from 12 noon to 4 p.m., the public is invited to see the beautifully decorated sanctuary at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and to join in a Holden Evening Prayer service from 4 to 4:30 p.m. as a reverent start to the Festival of Lights celebration on the square.

The St. Paul's Chancel and Bell Choirs will present

a candlelight Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy this wonderful presentation of the season's music.

All are encouraged to be part of St. Paul's Christmas Eve worship service. A family service for all ages will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 24. Candlelight services will be held at both 9 and 11 p.m.

Salem UM Church

Salem United Methodist Church – "where Liberty meets Independence" – at 133 S. Liberty St., will be a hub of activity throughout the coming holiday and Advent season. Though only a summary is offered here, visit www.SalemUM.com ... email office@SalemUM.com ... or call 570-366-0201 for additional information.

Salem Church offers three unique worship services each Sunday with a traditional worship at 8:45 a.m., a contemporary worship at 10:45 a.m., and the SNL Coffeehouse at 6:30 p.m. Sunday school for all ages is held at 10 a.m. and Children's Choir and Children's Church is held during the 10:45 worship for grades one through five. A paid nursery attendant is on staff from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The 11th annual Holiday Stop and Shop is Nov. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. featuring 18 home business vendors with several new companies added this year. Team Orwigsburg will have its popular soup/bake sale. New this year, thanks to Team Orwigsburg,

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Christmas Day Service, 9 a.m.



**Operation Christmas
Child Relay Center
Nov. 14-21**

A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

will be a Santa's Workshop where children can visit Santa "early" and parents have a photo-op. Small gifts will be available for the children to select for family members.

Salem Church will host this year's community Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, Nov. 23 beginning at 7 p.m. This time for giving thanks includes all three Orwigsburg Borough churches and rotates among them.

Crafts and fun activities for all ages are featured Sunday, Dec. 4 at Salem's 2nd annual family Advent Workshop from 3 to 6 p.m. Free and open to everyone, this event concludes with a soup and sandwich supper. Register in advance to assure adequate craft supplies are on hand.

Salem's God Squad rings their Christmas music during both morning services on Sunday Dec. 11. Music Sunday on Dec. 18 will feature a 9:45 a.m. breakfast served between the two worship services.

Looking for a church on Christmas Eve? Salem will have three services to fit everyone's schedule – a 4 p.m. family worship ideal for those with young children, a 7 p.m. contemporary service, and a 9 p.m. traditional worship. All three will feature candle lighting to illustrate the light of Christ coming into our



dark world.

Activities continue through the new year. A soup sale warms the tummy on a cold Saturday, Jan. 7 morning. Salem's annual soup and bake sale on Saturday, Feb. 11 directs all net proceeds to support the free Community Block Party held each year before Labor Day.

SNL is Salem's open door, coffee-house style worship experience, held Sunday evenings in Sandherr Hall at 6:30 p.m. In a small group setting, the Good News of Christ is shared through messages, discussions and Christian films. On special "meal and movie nights" the start time is moved up to 6 p.m. and will feature "Miracles from Heaven" on Nov. 13, part one of the "Journey to Bethlehem" advent series on Nov. 20, "The Christmas Shoes" on Dec. 11, and part two of "Journey to Bethlehem" on Dec. 18 at 6:30.

A teen night is planned for Nov. 27 with pizza, music and fellowship prior to a "Lock-In" that begins at 8 p.m. for middle and high school students. Find out the exciting details on the Salem web page.

All are invited to explore and share their interests with our church family through many small social activities and Christ-loving groups. TLC is Salem's mission – Transforming Lives through Christ. If you are searching and seeking, we welcome you to visit us and learn how your life can be transformed through Christ.

– Continued on page 28

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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

– Continued from Page 27

Kimmels Church

As we approach colder weather and a joyous holiday and Advent season, the Kimmels Church congregation wishes all in the community a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

Kimmels Church once again will host the "tea and cookies" stop of the Orwigsburg Holly Trail on Saturday, Dec. 3 from noon to 4 p.m. All are encouraged to enjoy this special event that helps raise funds for the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library. Purchase your tickets and get your program and map at the library. Enjoy your stop at Kimmels with the sights, sounds, and smells of Christmas. Listen to live Christmas music performed on our stage and enjoy refreshments handmade just for you. Best of all, let us help prepare your heart for the coming Christmas season.

Residents and visitors from throughout the area are invited to Christmas season services this year starting November 27 and each Sunday through Christmas. Worship begins at 10 a.m. A special Christmas Eve service on Saturday, Dec. 24 begins at 6:30 p.m. with a carol sing featuring our choir ensemble.



HERE WE COME A-CAROLING! - Visitors to Kimmels Church during the Orwigsburg Holly Trail will be greeted by song, tea and cookies this year.

ble and sharing the message of Christmas through song. Join in candle lighting as we remember the Light of the World – Jesus Christ and His birth.

Tickets will be available in December for the annual Sweetheart Dinner/Show and Hunter's Banquet events. The Sweetheart Dinner will be Saturday, Feb. 11 at 5:30 p.m. featuring a full course candlelight meal and entertainment by comedian Ron McGehee.

The Hunter's Banquet is Saturday, March 18 at the Landingville Fire Hall featuring good food and prizes. Guest speaker is Nate Hosie, expert turkey caller – earning him the nickname "The Turkey Slayer" – and is one of four stars featured on the Outdoor Channel's "Head Hunters" television show. He'll share his memories made in God's country.

Mothers of pre-school children may be interested to join the MOPS group. It meets every second and fourth Tuesday morning from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Join other mothers for growing relationships, sharing laughs and completing crafts. Childcare is provided.

Additional information on these and other events can be found at kimmelschurch.org or phone the church office at 570-943-2759.

Faith Worship Center

All are welcome at Faith Worship Center, 1168 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61).

Senior pastor Doug Cresswell invites those in need of spiritual or emotional support for whatever reason to visit Faith for Sunday celebration services at 9 and 11 a.m. and to celebrate the upcoming

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 North Warren Street • Orwigsburg

570-366-2316

www.stpaulsorwigsburg.org

Pastor: Rev. Lee A Diefenderfer

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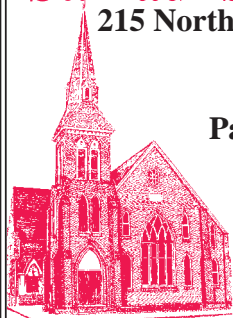
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Worship Times

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.



Handicap Accessible

Holly Trail Open House

Saturday, Dec. 3 – Noon to 4 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer – 4 to 4:30 p.m.

Candlelight Christmas Concert

Sunday, Dec. 11 – 6 p.m.

Featuring Chancel and Bell Choirs of St. Paul's



Christmas Eve Worship

Dec. 24 – 5 p.m. (families)

9 p.m. and 11 p.m.



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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

Christmas season.

Faith Church functions every day around the purpose of "loving God, loving people and serving the community" through more than 40 ministry teams purposed to helping and supporting the hurting people in our greater community.

For instance, the Hope Initiative team helps, supports and encourages anyone affected in any form by addiction, whether that be one's self or a family member or friend. The Fortress Cancer Care team reaches



out to all afflicted with or hurt by what cancer can do to a family. There are many

kinds of "hurts" in this world that can be devastating. People need to know there are others and a church that care and want to help them.

"Faith Church is a 'hospital for the hurting' not a 'hotel for the saints,'" professes pastor Cresswell. All are invited to Faith Worship Center to be part of decorating for the Christmas season, erecting, and lighting its 16-foot tree. Contact the church at 570-366-5131 or visit its website at www.atfaithchurch.com.

Faith looks forward to its inaugural "Quiet Christmas Celebration" at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. This service is for all those throughout the region who

are suffering or struggling in any area of life. Come and take time to remember a lost loved one. The service is also for those who are hurting from some of the many tragedies of life that often take the joy and excitement out of the season. Faith offers love and emotional support.

A candlelight Christmas Eve communion celebration service at 6 p.m. on Dec. 24 celebrates the birth of Christ. This is a festive 85 minutes on the eve of one of the greatest events in the history of the world. Please join us. To add to the joy, children will be excited to see Santa before his worldwide trip and to pose for photos.

St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., welcomes everyone to its worship service each Sunday at 10 a.m. Communion is served the first Sunday of each month. Sunday school children, ages four years through 6th grade, gather for class after they are personally blessed by the pastor at the beginning of the worship service.

St. John's is proud to be involved in the greater Orwigsburg community by sponsoring Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Senior Citizens, Team Orwigsburg dinners, an exercise class, quilters, yoga, blood drives, and the food pantry. Phone Kate at the office at 570-366-2255 to inquire about any of these groups.

– Continued on page 30

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A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

– Continued from Page 29

St. John's will again hold an "open house" during the Orwigsburg Holly Trail on Saturday, Dec. 3 from noon to 4 p.m. displaying Nativity scenes from countries around the world shared by church members.

The annual Christmas cookie sale will be held Saturday, Dec. 10 in the Fellowship Hall next to the church. Don't be late, doors open at 9 a.m. and "sell out" happens quickly! A variety of cookies are offered for purchase by the pound.



Music director Trena Murphy and the St. John's choir will present "Night of

Wonders," a Christmas cantata on Sunday, Dec. 18 during the 10 a.m. service. Come worship and gaze at the beautifully decorated church for the Advent season.

All are invited to remember and celebrate the birth of Christ on Saturday, Dec. 24 at St. John's 8 p.m. candlelight worship service.

This holiday season, don't forget those in our community who are in need. The Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, housed at St. John's, is always in need of donations of money and/or canned goods. Items can be dropped off at the church office any Monday or Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or Friday from

9 a.m. to noon. Checks should be made payable to Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry.

Zion's Red Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Zion's Red Church.

Located at 1287 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61 at Brick Hill Road), Zion's is a union congregation of Evangelical Lutheran and United Church of Christ denominations whose members "welcome, strengthen, and bless" all who enter. Visit the updated church website at www.zionsredchurch.org to learn more or call the church office at 570-366-1178.

The church mission is to welcome all with God's love ... Strengthen individuals for life's journey ... and Bless our wider community. Adult Bible study at 9:15 a.m. followed by worship at 10:30 is offered every Sunday. Creative, interactive elements are a part of all worship services, helping to focus on the weekly scripture readings. Individuals sometimes share "God sightings" as a way to share their faith and how God is working in their lives.

Veterans remembrance – The burdens of war are carried heavily by our veterans. Zion's marks the sacrifices of those veterans, live and dead, with a Veterans Day service



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of worship and covenant on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the middle floor fellowship room. This is handicap-accessible using the ramp at the rear entrance. Veterans, family members, civilians, people acquainted with war and those who are not, those who believe war may be necessary sometimes and those committed to nonviolence are warmly encouraged to participate. We are a people of God together.

Mini-concert – Zion's own Sarah Kramer, a talented 13-year-old with a heart for community service and spreading the good news of Christ, will perform on Sunday, Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. Admission is a canned good or non-perishable food item for the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry. Light refreshments will be served.

Holy Communion will be celebrated on November 27, the first Sunday of Advent.

Once again, Zion's Red Church offers a Blue Christmas service on Wednesday, Dec. 21 – the shortest day of the year – at 7:30 p.m. for those who feel blue, fearing the darkness may overtake the light in their life. The service will feature gentle music, readings, healing prayer, and a time for quiet reflection.

Christmas Eve – Worship with us on Christmas Eve when the beauty of the season comes alive as we celebrate the Christ Child in our midst. Families are welcomed to sing praises by candlelight and receive Holy Communion. This service begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 24. There will be no Christmas Day worship.



Kimmels Church

179 Pine Creek Drive
Orwigsburg, PA
Phone: 570.943.2759
www.kimmelschurch.org

Join Us!

**Tea & Cookies Stop
During the Holly Trail**
December 3 - noon to 4 pm

Festival of Lights
On The Square, Downtown Orwigsburg
December 3 - 4:30 pm

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services
December 24 - 6:30 pm, December 25 - 10:00 am

Sweetheart Banquet
Featuring Comedian Ron McGehee
February 11, Doors Open @ 5:00 pm - Tickets Available!

Deer Hunters' Banquet
Landingville Fire Company Hall
March 18, Doors Open @ 5:00 pm - Tickets Available!



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Holly Trail
& Festival
of Lights
Dec. 3

ECRWSS Postal Customer
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

A Friendly & Historic Community . . . Serving Its Residents • Welcoming Its Visitors

2016 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Orwigsburg Borough Offices will be closed
the following days*

Thursday – November 24th	Thanksgiving
Friday – November 25th	
Friday – December 23rd	Christmas
Monday – December 26th	
Monday – January 2nd	New Year's

We wish you and your families a very safe and
happy holiday season and look forward to a
great new year of serving you.

